

OUTGOING MESSAGE

Approved For Release 2004/11/30 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100140012-0

25X1

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY

AGE COI ACP TOG TPE MRO TRI

AGES

SCM 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

CLASSIFICATION

CL/OCI /WHIZWH

740704

DATE-TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CIA/INSS

SOURCE REF:

1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

ITEM NO: WH-3

DATE: JULY 4, 1974

SUBJECT: CHINESE DENY REPORTS THAT CHOU CRITICALLY ILL

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A CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN TODAY DISMISSED AS "ABSURD" PRESS REPORTS THAT PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI IS CRITICALLY ILL. THE STORIES WERE APPARENTLY FUELED BY THE FACT THAT THE 76-YEAR OLD LEADER HAS NOT APPEARED IN PUBLIC SINCE 31 MAY.

25X1

THE CHINESE HAVE SAID PUBLICLY THAT CHOU HAS BEEN FORCED TO GIVE UP HIS CEREMONIAL DUTIES BECAUSE OF "OLD AGE"

PRIVATELY, CHINESE OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN QUICK

TO ADD THAT CHOU RETAINS A FIRM HAND IN IMPORTANT PARTY AND GOVERNMENT MATTERS. HE IS PROBABLY CONCENTRATING ON THE ANTI-LIN, ANTI-CONFUCIUS CAMPAIGN.

25X1

DATE:

ORIG:

UNIT:

EXT:

25X1

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

CLASSIFICATION

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN THE ISSUING OFFICE IS

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SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: EAP DIV AND NIO

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CLASSIFICATION

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN THE ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED

FORM 4-73 4C

USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

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